

In re Application of: Boaz RAN et al.
Serial No.: 10/540,940
Filed: June 23, 2005
Notice of Allowance Mailing Date: January 29, 2008

Examiner: Michael Patrick STAFIRA
Group Art Unit: 2886
Attorney Docket: 36317

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the amendments above and the remarks following is respectfully requested.

The limitations of claim 19, and claim 24 which depends on claim 19, have been added to independent claim 18. Claims 19, 23, 24 and 48 have been cancelled. Claim 49, previously dependent on claim 18, has been put into independent form. Claims 20-22 has been amended herewith to depend on independent claim 18.

The Application now comprises claims 18, 20-22, 25, 45-47, 49 and 50, of which claims 18 and 49 are in independent form.

The Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) filed with this application includes PCT Publication No. WO 99/30135, to Bahatt et al. Independent amended claims 18 and 49, at least, are neither anticipated by nor obvious from PCT Publication No. WO 99/30135. The dependent claims are patentable over PCT Publication No. WO 99/30135 at least because of their dependence on claims 18 and 49.

PCT Publication No. WO99/30135 apparently shows, in Fig. 3, a two-dimensional array of light sources, in which each light source illuminates a sensor surface at a different angle of incidence, and all the light sources provide light at the same wavelength. PCT Publication No. WO 99/30135 also apparently shows, in Fig. 2, a one-dimensional array of light sources, in which the light sources provide light of different wavelengths. PCT Publication No. WO 99/30135 does not describe or suggest a two-dimensional array in which some of the light sources provide light at different wavelengths, as specified in amended claim 18. Neither does PCT Publication No. WO 99/30135 describe or suggest a two-dimensional array in which some of the light sources illuminate a sensor surface at a same angle of incidence, as specified in claim 49.

Applicants respectfully submit it would not be obvious, from PCT Publication No. WO 99/30135, to combine features of Figs. 2 and 3, to produce a two-dimensional array of light sources which satisfies the limitations of amended claim 18 or amended claim 49, for example a two-dimensional array in which angle of incidence varies along one axis, and wavelength varies along the other axis. Such an array would not be obvious, because it would go against the teachings of PCT

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Publication No. WO 99/30135. PCT Publication No. WO99/30135 teaches that, if an array of light sources is used to vary the incidence angle, then the array should be two-dimensional, with each light source providing light with a different angle of incidence, as shown in their Fig. 3, in order to have a small enough change in the angle of incidence between one light source and the next, and a large enough total range in angle of incidence over the entire array. If the array shown in Fig. 3 were to be modified so that, for example, all of the light sources in each row provided light with the same angle of incidence, then the difference in angle of incidence between adjacent rows would be too great, so PCT Publication No. WO 99/30135 teaches against claim 49.

Furthermore, since both dimensions of the two-dimensional array shown in Fig. 3 of PCT Publication No. WO 99/30135 are used in order to provide variation in angle of incidence, it would not be obvious to also vary the wavelength between different light sources in a same row of the two-dimensional array. Or, starting with the one-dimensional row of light sources shown in Fig. 2 of PCT Publication No. WO 99/30135, with each light source having a different wavelength but with all light sources having the same angle of incidence, there would be no motivation to expand it into a two-dimensional array, with different rows having different angles of incidence, since the difference in angle of incidence between adjacent rows would then be too great. So amended claim 18 is not obvious from PCT Publication No. WO 99/30135.

The 4-page PTO-1449 Form for the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) is being submitted along this amendment. Copies of the Non-Patent Art cited in the attached PTO-1449 Form will arrive in a few days.

Entry of this amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosures:

- Request for Continued Examination (RCE); and
- Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
(incl. 4-page PTO-1449 Form)